

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Akira Nakano ET AL.

Appln. No.: 09/925,579

Filed: 8/9/2001

For: PLASMA PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND SYSTEM,
PERFORMANCE VALIDATION
SYSTEM AND INSPECTION
METHOD THEREFOR

Examiner: Rudy Zervigon

Art Unit: 1763

Attorney Docket No: 9281-4140

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), Applicants hereby cite the following reference(s):

No.	Date of Publication	Applicant
5,474,648	12/1995	Patrick et al.
5,423,915	06/1995	Murata et al.
4,645,981	02/1987	Stramke, Siegfried

Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). As each of the listed references is in English, no further commentary is believed to be necessary, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3). Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's consideration of the above reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

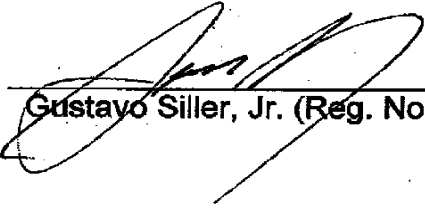
By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants hereby certify pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Accordingly, Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

December 29, 2006

Date



Gustavo Siller, Jr. (Reg. No. 32,305)

FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	09/925,579	9281-4140
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	August 9, 2001	1763
APPLICANTS: Akira Nakano et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	E1	5,474,648	12/1995	Patrick et al.		
	E2	5,423,915	06/1995	Murata et al.		
	E3	4,645,981	02/1987	Stramke, Siegfried		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.